(c) the details of the naxalite organizations identified by Government and the areas of their operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Central Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to tackle the problem of naxalism which includes (a) having a peace dialogue by the affected States, wherever feasible with naxal groups willing to abjure violence, (b) modernization and strengthening of the State Police forces, long term deployment of Para Military forces, intensified intelligence based well-coordinated anti-naxalite operations, (c) focused attention on integrated development of the affected areas and (d) removal of socio-cultural alienation of people, gearing up of public grievances redressal system and creation of Local Resistance Groups.

(b) A Task Force on naxalism has been constituted on October 7, 2004 under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (IS), MHA to deliberate upon the entire gamut of steps needed to deal with the menace of naxalism more effectively and in a coordinated manner.

(c) The Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)-People's War (CPML-PW) mainly operative in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal and the Maoist Communist Centre of India (MCCI) in Jharkhand, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh remain the two pre-dominant naxalite outfits accounting for more than 90% of the aggregate naxalite violence and resultant deaths. CPML-PW and MCCI have now announced their merger into one entity called the Communist Party of India (Maoist).

**Raising of National Emergency Response Force**

27. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to raise a National Emergency Response Force (NERF) to tackle calamities arising out of nuclear, biological or chemical disaster;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time-frame within which the force is proposed to be raised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) A proposal to set apart eight battalions from the existing strength of Central Para Military Forces to be trained and equipped for specialist response to natural and man-made disasters, including four battalions for responding to nuclear, biological and chemical emergencies is under active consideration.

**World Bank Assistance to upgrade fire Fighting Services**

28. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most States have submitted their project reports seeking funds to acquire sophisticated equipment for their fire fighting services, as part of disaster management infrastructure, to meet the challenge of growing terrorist activities in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof, and the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are negotiating with the World Bank for Rs. 1,000 crore loan to upgrade fire services departments in various States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and its present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Project reports have been received from fourteen (14) States as per details in the Statement (*see* below), on the basis of which a memorandum has been placed before the Twelfth Finance Commission.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.